



General Assembly

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27 January 2010

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 41

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/64/431)]

64/127. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office¹ and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixtieth session² and the decisions contained therein,

Recalling its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner, commending the staff and implementing partners of the Office of the High Commissioner for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, and underlining its strong condemnation of all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are increasingly exposed,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixtieth session;²

2. *Welcomes* the important work undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee in the course of the year, which is aimed at strengthening the international protection regime and at assisting Governments in meeting their protection responsibilities;

3. *Reaffirms* the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees³ and the 1967 Protocol thereto⁴ as the foundation of the international refugee protection regime, recognizes the importance of their full and effective application by States

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/64/12).

² Ibid., Supplement No. 12 (A/64/12/Add.1).

³ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545.

⁴ Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.



parties and the values they embody, notes with satisfaction that one hundred and forty-seven States are now parties to one instrument or to both, encourages States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments, underlines, in particular, the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement, and recognizes that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees;

4. *Notes* that sixty-five States are now parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons⁵ and that thirty-seven States are parties to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,⁶ encourages States that have not done so to give consideration to acceding to those instruments, notes the work of the High Commissioner in regard to identifying stateless persons, preventing and reducing statelessness and protecting stateless persons, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work in this area in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and Executive Committee conclusions;

5. *Takes note* of the sixtieth anniversary of the Geneva Conventions⁷ and the fortieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa,⁸ commemorated in 2009;

6. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, and strongly emphasizes, in this context, the importance of active international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing;

7. *Also re-emphasizes* that prevention and reduction of statelessness are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community;

8. *Further re-emphasizes* that protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community;

9. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to pursue its efforts to strengthen its capacity to respond adequately to emergencies and thereby ensure a more predictable response to inter-agency commitments in case of emergency;

10. *Takes note* of the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the mandate of the Office for refugees and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to work in partnership and in full cooperation with relevant national authorities, United Nations offices and agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the continued development of

⁵ Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

⁶ Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

⁷ Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

⁸ Ibid., vol. 1001, No. 14691.

humanitarian response capacities at all levels, and recalls the role of the Office as the cluster lead for protection, camp coordination and management, and emergency shelter in complex emergencies;

12. *Also encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner, among other relevant United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance, as stated in General Assembly resolution 63/139 of 11 December 2008 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

13. *Further encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to engage in and implement in full the objectives of the Delivering as One initiative;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing implementation of the process of structural and management change undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner, and encourages the Office to complete the implementation of the reforms process, including the implementation of a results-based management and accountability framework and strategy, as well as human resources reform, and to focus on continuous improvement to enable a more efficient response to the needs of beneficiaries and ensure the effective and transparent use of its resources;

15. *Strongly condemns* attacks on refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons as well as acts that pose a threat to their personal security and well-being, and calls upon all States concerned and, where applicable, parties involved in an armed conflict to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law;

16. *Expresses deep concern* about the increasing number of attacks against humanitarian aid workers and convoys and, in particular, the loss of life of humanitarian personnel working in the most difficult and challenging conditions in order to assist those in need;

17. *Emphasizes* the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity, and that the perpetrators of such acts are promptly brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

18. *Deplores* the refoulement and unlawful expulsion of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon all States concerned to ensure respect for the relevant principles of refugee protection and human rights;

19. *Emphasizes* that international protection of refugees is a dynamic and action-oriented function that is at the core of the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner and that it includes, in cooperation with States and other partners, the promotion and facilitation of, inter alia, the admission, reception and treatment of refugees in accordance with internationally agreed standards and the ensuring of durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups and paying special attention to those with specific needs, and notes in this context that the delivery of international protection is a staff-intensive service that requires adequate staff with the appropriate expertise, especially at the field level;

20. *Affirms* the importance of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in analysing protection needs and in ensuring the participation of refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, as appropriate, in the planning and implementation of programmes of the Office and State policies, and also

affirms the importance of according priority to addressing discrimination, gender inequality and the problem of sexual and gender-based violence, recognizing the importance of addressing the protection needs of women and children in particular;

21. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to refugee problems, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

22. *Expresses concern* about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, and emphasizes the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of achieving durable solutions to refugee problems and, in particular, the need to address in this process the root causes of refugee movements in order to avert new flows of refugees;

24. *Welcomes* the initiative of the High Commissioner to convene, in Geneva on 9 and 10 December 2009, the third Dialogue on Protection Challenges, on the theme "Challenges for persons of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in urban settings";

25. *Recalls* the important role of effective partnerships and coordination in meeting the needs of refugees and in finding durable solutions to their situations, welcomes the efforts under way, in cooperation with countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, including their respective local communities, relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to promote a framework for durable solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, which includes an approach to sustainable and timely return which encompasses repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, and encourages States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to support, inter alia, through the allocation of funds, the implementation of such a framework to facilitate an effective transition from relief to development;

26. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of return and reintegration;

27. *Welcomes* the progress that has been achieved in increasing the number of refugees resettled and the number of States offering opportunities for resettlement, and the contribution that those States make to durable solutions for refugees, and invites interested States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement,⁹ where appropriate and feasible;

⁹ Available from www.unhcr.org.

28. *Notes with appreciation* the activities undertaken by States to strengthen the regional initiatives that facilitate cooperative policies and approaches on refugees, and encourages States to continue their efforts to address, in a comprehensive manner, the needs of the people who require international protection in their respective regions, including the support provided for host communities that receive large numbers of persons who require international protection;

29. *Notes* the importance of States and the Office of the High Commissioner discussing and clarifying the role of the Office in mixed migratory flows, in order to better address protection needs in the context of mixed migratory flows, including by safeguarding access to asylum for those in need of international protection, and notes the readiness of the High Commissioner, consistent with his mandate, to assist States in fulfilling their protection responsibilities in this regard;

30. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

31. *Expresses deep concern* about the challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation to the protection activities of the Office of the High Commissioner and the assistance it provides to vulnerable populations of concern across the globe, particularly in the least developed countries, and urges the Office to continue to address such challenges in its work, within its mandate, and in consultation with national authorities and in cooperation with competent agencies in its operations;

32. *Notes* the important number of displaced in and from Iraq and its serious impact on the social and economic situation of countries in the region, and calls upon the international community to act in a targeted and coordinated manner to provide protection and increased assistance to the persons displaced to enable the countries in the region to strengthen their capacity to respond to the needs in partnership with the Office of the High Commissioner, other United Nations agencies, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and non-governmental organizations;

33. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to enhancing the capacity of and reducing the heavy burden borne by host countries, in particular those that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon the Office to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition;

34. *Expresses deep concern* about the existing and potential challenges posed by the world financial and economic crisis to the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner;

35. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to further explore ways and means to broaden its donor base, so as to achieve greater burden-sharing by reinforcing cooperation with governmental donors, non-governmental donors and the private sector;

36. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential for the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute¹⁰ and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions on refugees and other persons of concern, recalls its resolutions 58/153 of 22 December 2003, 58/270 of 23 December 2003, 59/170 of 20 December 2004, 60/129 of 16 December 2005, 61/137 of 19 December 2006, 62/124 of 18 December 2007 and 63/148 of 18 December 2008 concerning, inter alia, the implementation of paragraph 20 of the statute of the Office, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to annual and supplementary appeals issued by the Office for requirements under its programmes;

37. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his activities to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

*65th plenary meeting
18 December 2009*

¹⁰ Resolution 428 (V), annex.



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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/64/431)]

64/128. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 2009/252 of 30 July 2009 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

Taking note also of the request regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the letter dated 10 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General;¹

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from seventy-eight to seventy-nine States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional member at its resumed organizational session for 2010.

*65th plenary meeting
18 December 2009*

¹ E/2009/47.





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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/64/431)]

64/129. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969¹ and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,²

Reaffirming that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,³ together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,⁴ as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

Recognizing the particular vulnerability of women and children among refugees and other persons of concern, including exposure to discrimination and sexual and physical abuse,

Gravely concerned by the deteriorating conditions in some of the refugee camps in Africa,

Recognizing that refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV/AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases,

Welcoming the adoption of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa,⁵ which marks a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative framework for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

⁵ Available from www.africa-union.org.



Noting with appreciation the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region⁶ and its instruments, in particular two of the protocols to the Pact which are relevant to the protection of displaced persons, namely, the Protocol on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and the Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons,

Recognizing that host States have the primary responsibility for the protection of and assistance to refugees on their territory, and the need to redouble efforts to develop and implement comprehensive durable solution strategies, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, and burden- and responsibility-sharing,

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General⁷ and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;⁸

2. *Calls upon* African Member States that have not yet signed or ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa⁹ to consider doing so as early as possible in order to ensure its early entry into force and implementation;

3. *Takes note* of the fortieth anniversary, on 10 September 2009, of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969;¹

4. *Notes* the need for African Member States to address resolutely root causes of all forms of forced displacement in Africa and to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent so as to forestall flows of refugees;

5. *Notes with great concern* that, despite all of the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious, and calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

6. *Welcomes* decision EX.CL/Dec.494 (XV) on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa, adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its fifteenth ordinary session, held in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 28 to 30 June 2009;⁹

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and commends the Office for its ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African countries of asylum, including by providing support to vulnerable local host communities, and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

⁶ Available from www.icglr.org.

⁷ A/64/330.

⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/64/12).

⁹ See African Union, document EX.CL/Dec.489-520 (XV) Rev.2. Available from www.africa-union.org.

8. *Notes with appreciation* the initiatives taken by the African Union, the Subcommittee on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons of its Permanent Representatives Committee, and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in particular the role of its Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum-Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

9. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of the age, gender and diversity mainstreaming strategy in identifying, through a participatory approach, the protection risks faced by the different members of the refugee community, in particular the non-discriminatory treatment and protection of refugee women and refugee children and minority groups of refugees;

10. *Affirms* that children, because of their age, social status and physical and mental development, are often more vulnerable than adults in situations of forced displacement, recognizes that forced displacement, return to post-conflict situations, integration in new societies, protracted situations of displacement and statelessness can increase child-protection risks, taking into account the particular vulnerability of refugee children to forcible exposure to the risks of physical and psychological injury, exploitation and death in connection with armed conflict, and acknowledges that wider environmental factors and individual risk factors, particularly when combined, may generate different protection needs;

11. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of return and reintegration;

12. *Also recognizes* the importance of early registration and effective registration systems and censuses as a tool of protection and as a means to the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance and to implement appropriate durable solutions;

13. *Recalls* the conclusion on registration of refugees and asylum-seekers adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at its fifty-second session,¹⁰ notes the many forms of harassment faced by refugees and asylum-seekers who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, recalls the responsibility of States to register refugees on their territories and, as appropriate, the responsibility of the Office of the High Commissioner or mandated international bodies to do so, reiterates in this context the central role that early and effective registration and documentation can play, guided by protection considerations, in enhancing protection and supporting efforts to find durable solutions, and calls upon the Office, as appropriate, to help States to conduct this procedure should they be unable to register refugees on their territory;

14. *Calls upon* the international community, including States and the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight, facilitating durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons and supporting vulnerable local host communities;

¹⁰ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12A (A/56/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. B.

15. *Reaffirms* the importance of timely and adequate assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons, also reaffirms that assistance and protection are mutually reinforcing and that inadequate material assistance and food shortages undermine protection, notes the importance of a rights- and community-based approach in engaging constructively with individual refugees, returnees and displaced persons and their communities so as to achieve fair and equitable access to food and other forms of material assistance, and expresses concern in regard to situations in which minimum standards of assistance are not met, including those in which adequate needs assessments have yet to be undertaken;

16. *Also reaffirms* that respect by States for their protection responsibilities towards refugees is strengthened by international solidarity involving all members of the international community and that the refugee protection regime is enhanced through committed international cooperation in a spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing among all States;

17. *Further reaffirms* that host States have the primary responsibility to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, calls upon States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements or used for purposes that are incompatible with their civilian character, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors, to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of camps;

18. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum-seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, calls upon States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations, where appropriate, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum-seekers, notes with interest that the High Commissioner has continued to take steps to encourage the development of measures to better ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue those efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors;

19. *Deplores* the continuing violence and insecurity which constitute an ongoing threat to the safety and security of staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian organizations and an obstacle to the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Office and the ability of its implementing partners and other humanitarian personnel to discharge their respective humanitarian functions, urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of the Office and that of all humanitarian organizations discharging functions mandated by the Office, and calls upon States to investigate fully any crime committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice the persons responsible for such crimes;

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the African Union, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the protection system for refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons;

21. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other entities concerned to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities, in particular those Governments that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers;

22. *Reaffirms* the right of return and the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

23. *Also reaffirms* that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin in order not to impede the exercise of the refugees' right to return, recognizes that the voluntary repatriation and reintegration process is normally guided by the conditions in the country of origin, in particular that voluntary repatriation can be accomplished in conditions of safety and dignity, and urges the High Commissioner to promote sustainable return through the development of durable and lasting solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations;

24. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide financial and material assistance that allows for the implementation of community-based development programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities, as appropriate, in agreement with host countries and consistent with humanitarian objectives;

25. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to the third-country resettlement needs of African refugees, notes in this regard the importance of using resettlement strategically, as part of situation-specific comprehensive responses to refugee situations, and to this end encourages States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make full use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement,¹¹ where appropriate;

26. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum as well as internally displaced persons, where appropriate;

27. *Urges* the international community, in the spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, inter alia, as a result of repatriation possibilities, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

¹¹ Available from www.unhcr.org

28. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner and interested States to identify protracted refugee situations which might lend themselves to resolution through the development of specific, multilateral, comprehensive and practical approaches to resolving such refugee situations, including improvement of international burden- and responsibility-sharing and realization of durable solutions, within a multilateral context;

29. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, notes the efforts of African States in strengthening the regional mechanisms for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in that regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,¹² takes note of the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

30. *Invites* the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions".

65th plenary meeting
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¹² E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.



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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/64/432)]

64/130. Policies and programmes involving youth

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/81 of 14 December 1995 and 62/126 of 18 December 2007,¹

Recalling also that, in its resolution 62/126, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, through the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session, on the implementation of eleven of the fifteen priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth, namely armed conflict, drug abuse, environment, girls and young women, health, HIV/AIDS, information and communications technology, intergenerational issues, juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities and youth participation in society and decision-making,

Emphasizing that all fifteen priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth are interrelated,

Stressing the important role of effective sectoral and cross-sectoral national youth policies, reflecting youth in all its diversity, as well as of international cooperation in promoting the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Taking note of the report of the Africa Commission entitled "Realizing the potential of Africa's youth",² which addresses ways to create employment for young people through growth led by the private sector and improved competitiveness of African economies,

Welcoming the fifth World Youth Congress, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, European Capital of Culture 2010, from 31 July to 13 August 2010, and also welcoming the initiative of the Government of Mexico to host a World Youth

¹ In paragraph 1 of its resolution 47/1, the Commission for Social Development reaffirmed the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto as a unified set of guiding principles, to be referred to henceforth as the World Programme of Action for Youth.

² Available from www.africacommission.um.dk.



Conference, in Mexico City from 24 to 27 August 2010, which will focus on the issue of youth and development in the context of the Millennium Development Goals.

Welcoming also the youth-related initiatives of the Alliance of Civilizations, such as Silatech, a youth employment initiative launched by Qatar, the annual League of Arab States Youth Forum, whose third forum, on the theme "Youth and migration: a human-rights based approach", was held in Assilah, Morocco, from 14 to 20 November 2009, and the inaugural Youth Olympic Games, to be held in Singapore from 14 to 26 August 2010, the aim of which is to inspire young people around the world to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect, welcoming further the declaration of 2010 as the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, and in this regard stressing the importance of increasing international youth interaction,

Recognizing the special vulnerability of young people in the current financial and economic crisis, in particular with regard to youth unemployment and precarious working conditions,

Emphasizing that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood, and in this regard underlining the particular vulnerability of young people to all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and also to various extremist political parties, movements and groups that are based on neo-Nazi, neo-fascist and other violent ideologies,

1. *Reaffirms* the World Programme of Action for Youth;³
2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: progress and constraints with respect to the well-being of youth and their role in civil society";⁴
3. *Stresses* that young people are often among the main victims of armed conflict, expresses its deep concern at the violations of international humanitarian law that undermine the protection of the human rights of civilians in armed conflict, calls upon Member States, in accordance with the World Programme of Action for Youth, to take concrete measures to further protect and assist young women and men in these situations, bearing in mind that armed and other types of conflict and terrorism and hostage-taking still persist in many parts of the world and that aggression, foreign occupation and ethnic and other types of conflict are an ongoing reality affecting young persons in nearly every region, from which they need to be protected, and also calls upon Member States to recognize young women and men as important actors in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict processes;
4. *Urges* Member States to strengthen or establish, in collaboration with young people and youth-led organizations, youth-friendly substance abuse prevention programmes and affordable treatment and rehabilitation programmes, in accordance with existing anti-drug conventions and other instruments of the United Nations, in order to address the vulnerability of young people to substance abuse and to avoid the marginalization of young people with a substance abuse problem;

³ Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

⁴ A/64/61-E/2009/3.

5. *Emphasizes* that the deterioration of the natural environment, including the impacts of climate change and loss of biodiversity, is one of the principal concerns of young people worldwide and has direct implications for the well-being and empowerment of youth both now and in the future, and therefore urges Member States:

(a) To promote environmental awareness and protection among youth, inter alia, by supporting programmes for non-formal education implemented by youth-led organizations, in accordance with the goals of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development;

(b) To strengthen the participation of young people, as important actors in the protection, preservation and improvement of the environment at the local, national and international levels, as envisioned in Agenda 21;⁵

(c) To ensure the involvement of young people in the renewable and sustainable energy sectors, through access to adequate education and training, the promotion of youth employment and entrepreneurship opportunities and cooperation initiatives in these sectors;

6. *Reaffirms* the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁶ the Beijing Platform for Action⁷ and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,⁸ urges Member States to take measures, including the involvement of boys and young men, to promote gender equality in all aspects of society and to eliminate violence against girls and young women as a matter of priority, and notes the importance of promoting women leaders in the public and private sectors as role models for young women and girls;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to work to ensure that young people enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health by providing youth with access to sustainable health systems and social services without discrimination and by paying special attention to, and raising awareness of, nutrition, including eating disorders and obesity, to the effects of non-communicable and communicable diseases and to sexual and reproductive health, as well as to measures to prevent sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

8. *Reaffirms* the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS⁹ and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS,¹⁰ and urges Member States to fulfil their commitments on the provision of universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support in order to halt and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015, engage young people in the AIDS response, ensure education and employment opportunities to reduce vulnerability to HIV, provide youth-friendly health services, including voluntary and confidential counselling and testing, continue efforts to eliminate the stigma of, and discrimination against, young people living with HIV, and ensure that HIV/AIDS policies and programmes are reviewed so that they contribute to reducing the particular vulnerability of young women and girls to HIV;

⁵ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution I, annex II.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

⁷ Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution I, annex II.

⁸ Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

⁹ Resolution S-26/2, annex.

¹⁰ Resolution 60/262, annex.

9. *Stresses* the potential of information and communications technology to improve the quality of life of young people, and calls upon Member States, with the support of the United Nations system, donors, the private sector and civil society, to ensure universal, non-discriminatory, equitable, safe and affordable access to information and communications technology, especially in schools and public places, and to remove the barriers to bridging the digital divide, including through transfer of technology and international cooperation, as well as to promote the development of locally relevant content and implement measures to equip young people with the knowledge and skills to use information and communications technology appropriately and safely;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

11. *Urges* Member States to develop policies and programmes to reduce youth violence and youth involvement in crime and ensure that judicial systems and rehabilitation services are safe, fair, age-appropriate and in accordance with the relevant international human rights instruments and promote the well-being of youth by:

(a) Promoting systematic and comprehensive prevention measures regarding youth violence;

(b) Providing non-discriminatory access to education, opportunities for decent employment and leisure programmes that improve the competencies and self-esteem of young people in detention;

(c) Promoting, where appropriate, the physical and legal separation of juvenile from adult judicial and penal systems;

(d) Promoting alternatives to detention and institutionalization, such as social and community service;

(e) Providing to young people after they leave juvenile detention support services that ensure their full rehabilitation and reintegration into society;

12. *Recognizes* that leisure time is an important aspect of youth well-being and health as well as of crime and violence prevention, and in this regard calls upon Member States to protect the right of all young people, particularly girls and young women, to rest and leisure and to enhance opportunities for the exercise of this right in a positive way;

13. *Also recognizes* that the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, require the full and effective participation of young people and youth-led organizations, and therefore encourages Member States to ensure the full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making processes by:

(a) Creating effective channels of cooperation and information exchange among young people, their national Governments and other decision makers;

(b) Encouraging and promoting youth-led organizations and the important role they play in supporting young people's civic engagement, capacity-building and providing non-formal education through financial and technical support and promotion of their activities;

(c) Supporting, including through State and local governments, the establishment and functioning of independent national youth councils or equivalent bodies;

(d) Strengthening the participation and inclusion of young persons with disabilities in decision-making processes on an equal basis with others;

(e) Providing young people who are disconnected or socially and economically excluded with opportunities to participate in decision-making processes to ensure their full involvement in society;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to consider using the goals and targets proposed in the reports of the Secretary-General¹¹ at the national level as a means of facilitating the monitoring of progress towards the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to further develop and propose a set of possible indicators linked to the World Programme of Action for Youth and the proposed goals and targets, in order to assist States in assessing the situation of youth, with a view to allowing it to be considered by the Commission for Social Development and by the Statistical Commission at the earliest opportunity;

16. *Recognizes* the positive contribution that youth representatives make to the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies and their role in serving as an important channel of communication between young people and the United Nations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to support adequately the United Nations Programme on Youth of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat so that it can continue to facilitate their effective participation in meetings;

17. *Urges* Member States to consider including youth representatives in their delegations at all relevant discussions in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and relevant United Nations conferences, as appropriate, bearing in mind the principles of gender balance and non-discrimination, and emphasizes that such youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process that ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

18. *Recognizes* the need for a greater geographical balance of youth representation, and encourages Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries;

19. *Welcomes* the recent increased collaboration among United Nations entities in the area of youth development, and calls upon the United Nations Programme on Youth to continue to act as the focal point within the United Nations system for promoting further collaboration.

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18 December 2009*

¹¹ A/62/61/Add.1-E/2007/7/Add.1 and A/64/61-E/2009/3.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 February 2010Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 61

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

*[on the report of the Third Committee (A/64/432)]***64/131. Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities***The General Assembly,*

Recalling the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,¹ the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities² and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,³ in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in which it recognized the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level, and stressing the duty of Member States to achieve greater justice and equality for all, in particular persons with disabilities,

Gravely concerned that persons with disabilities are often subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination and can be largely invisible in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which is both a human rights treaty and a development tool, provides an opportunity to strengthen the policies related to and the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, thereby contributing to the realization of a "society for all" in the twenty-first century,

Noting also that persons with disabilities make up an estimated 10 per cent of the world's population, of whom 80 per cent live in developing countries, and recognizing the importance of international cooperation and its promotion in support of national efforts, in particular for developing countries,

¹ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

² Resolution 48/96, annex.

³ Resolution 61/106, annex I.



Concerned that the lack of data and information on disability and the situation of persons with disabilities at the national level contributes to the invisibility of persons with disabilities in official statistics, presenting an obstacle to achieving development planning and implementation that is inclusive of persons with disabilities,

Recognizing that the upcoming high-level plenary meeting to review the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in 2010 is an important opportunity to enhance efforts to realize the Goals for all, in particular for persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities through the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;⁴

2. *Urges* Member States, and invites international organizations, regional organizations, including regional integration organizations, financial institutions, the private sector and civil society, in particular organizations representing persons with disabilities, as appropriate, to promote the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, inter alia, by explicitly including disability issues and persons with disabilities in national plans and tools designed to contribute to the full realization of the Goals;

3. *Urges* the United Nations system to make a concerted effort to integrate disability issues into its work, and in this regard encourages the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to continue working to ensure that development programmes, including Millennium Development Goals policies, processes and mechanisms, are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

4. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that their international cooperation, including through international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

5. *Calls upon* Governments and United Nations bodies and agencies to include disability issues and persons with disabilities in reviewing progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and to step up efforts to include in their assessment the extent to which persons with disabilities are able to benefit from efforts to achieve the Goals;

6. *Calls upon* Governments to enable persons with disabilities to participate as agents and beneficiaries of development, in particular in all efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals, by ensuring that programmes and policies, namely on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development, are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the participation of persons with disabilities at all levels of policymaking and development, which is critical to informing policymakers on the situation of persons with disabilities, the barriers

⁴ A/64/180.

they may face and ways to overcome obstacles to the full and equal enjoyment of their rights, to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals for all, including persons with disabilities, and to their socio-economic advancement;

8. *Encourages* international cooperation in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, including through global partnerships for development, which are crucial for the realization of the Goals for all, in particular for persons with disabilities;

9. *Encourages* Governments to develop and accelerate the exchange of information, guidelines and standards, best practices, legislative measures and government policies regarding the situation of persons with disabilities and disability issues, in particular as they relate to inclusion and accessibility;

10. *Calls upon* Governments to build a knowledge base of data and information about the situation of persons with disabilities that could be used to enable development policy planning, monitoring, evaluation and implementation to be disability sensitive, in particular in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, and in this regard:

(a) Requests the Secretary-General to disseminate widely and promote the use of the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics*⁵ and the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*⁶ and to facilitate technical assistance, within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building of Member States, in particular to developing countries;

(b) Encourages Member States to make use of statistics, to the extent possible, to integrate a disability perspective in reviewing their progress towards realizing the Millennium Development Goals for all;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit information on the implementation of the present resolution during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly within the report requested by the Assembly in paragraph 13 (b) of its resolution 63/150 of 18 December 2008.

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18 December 2009

⁵ ST/ESA/STAT/SER/Y/10 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15).

⁶ ST/ESA/STAT/SER/M/67/Rev.2 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XVII.8).



General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 February 2010Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 61 (c)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

*[on the report of the Third Committee (A/64/432)]***64/132. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing***The General Assembly,*

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration¹ and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,² its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007 and 63/151 of 18 December 2008,

Recognizing that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,³

1. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

2. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,² and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

¹ *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ A/64/127.



3. *Also encourages* Member States to overcome obstacles to the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life-course and foster intergenerational solidarity in order to increase the likelihood of greater success in the years ahead;

4. *Further encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, feasible and have the greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead and to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process;

5. *Recommends* that Member States increase awareness-raising of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by strengthening networks of national focal points on ageing, working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to seek increased attention to ageing issues;

6. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of national plans of action on ageing;

7. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

8. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure, as appropriate, conditions that enable families and communities to provide care and protection to persons as they age and to evaluate improvement in the health status of older persons, including on a gender-specific basis, and to reduce disability and mortality;

9. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the Madrid Plan of Action and to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and provide social integration;

10. *Invites* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons through, *inter alia*, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights where applicable;

12. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to eliminate and address discrimination on the basis of age and gender, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, including women's groups and organizations of older persons, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women, and promote positive images of older persons;

13. *Further calls upon* Member States to address the well-being and adequate health care of older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, by designing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and policies to address these problems and their underlying factors;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider how best the international framework of norms and standards can ensure the full enjoyment of the rights of older persons, including, as appropriate, the possibility of instituting new policies, instruments or measures to further improve the situation of older persons;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action;

16. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

17. *Encourages* the international community to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable social and economic support for older persons;

18. *Also encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

19. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

20. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and provide added resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

21. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the result of its first review and appraisal cycle, and in that connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

22. *Recommends* that ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁴ take into account the situation of older persons;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session,

⁴ See resolution 55/2.

taking into consideration the discussions and conclusions of the Commission for Social Development at its forty-eighth session, a comprehensive report on the current status of the social situation, well-being, development and rights of older persons at the national and regional levels.

*65th plenary meeting
18 December 2009*



General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 February 2010

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 61 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/64/432)]

64/133. Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005 and 62/129 of 18 December 2007 concerning the proclamation of the International Year of the Family and the preparations for, observance of and follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

Noting that in paragraph 5 of its resolution 59/111 and paragraph 2 of its resolution 59/147, respectively, the General Assembly underlined the need to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and to develop concrete measures and approaches to address national priorities in dealing with family issues,

Recognizing that the preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004 constituted an important opportunity to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of efforts at all levels to carry out specific programmes within the framework of the objectives of the Year,

Aware that a major objective of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family is to address the major concern of strengthening the capacity of national institutions to formulate, implement and monitor policies in respect of families,

Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Convinced of the necessity of ensuring an action-oriented follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family beyond 2004,

Recognizing the important catalytic and supportive role of United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and the regional commissions in ensuring an action-oriented follow-up in the field of the family, including their positive contribution to strengthening national capacities in family policymaking,



Cognizant of the need for continued inter-agency cooperation on family issues in order to generate greater awareness of this subject among the governing bodies of the United Nations system,

Convinced that civil society, including research and academic institutions, has a pivotal role in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking in respect of family policy development and capacity-building,

Noting that, in its resolution 59/111, the General Assembly decided to celebrate the anniversary of the International Year of the Family on a ten-year basis,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,¹

1. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

2. *Invites* Governments and regional intergovernmental entities to provide for more systematic national and regional data on family well-being and to identify and ensure support for constructive family policy developments, including the exchange of information on good policies and practices;

3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt holistic approaches to policies and programmes that confront family poverty and social exclusion, and invites Member States to stimulate public debate and consultations on family-oriented and gender- and child-sensitive social protection policies, in accordance with the objectives of the International Year of the Family;

4. *Further encourages* Member States to promote policies and programmes supporting intergenerational solidarity at the family and community levels and geared to reducing the vulnerability of younger and older generations through various social protection strategies;

5. *Urges* Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of the child;

6. *Invites* Governments to continue to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues, and encourages the United Nations Programme on the Family, within its mandate, to assist Governments in this regard, including through the provision of technical assistance to build and develop national capacities in the area of formulating, implementing and monitoring family policies;

7. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

8. *Recommends* that United Nations agencies and bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, research and academic institutions and the private sector play a supportive role in promoting the objectives of the International Year of the Family;

¹ A/64/134.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session, through the Commission for Social Development at its forty-ninth session and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution and on the appropriate ways and means to observe the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in 2014.

10. *Decides* to consider the topic "Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" at its sixty-sixth session under the sub-item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family".

65th plenary meeting

18 December 2009



General Assembly

Distr.: General
1 February 2010

Sixty-fourth session

Agenda item 61 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/64/432)]

64/134. Proclamation of 2010 as the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations and the principles contained therein,

Considering that it is necessary to disseminate among young people the ideals of peace, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, solidarity and dedication to the objectives of progress and development,

Recalling the provisions of the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples, proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 2037 (XX) of 7 December 1965,

Recalling also its resolutions 50/81 of 14 December 1995 and 62/126 of 18 December 2007, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto,¹

Bearing in mind that the ways in which the challenges and potential of young people are addressed will influence current social and economic conditions and the well-being and livelihood of future generations,

Bearing in mind also that 2010 will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the 1985 International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, and stressing the importance of commemorating this anniversary,

Convinced that young people should be encouraged to devote their energy, enthusiasm and creativity to economic, social and cultural development and the promotion of mutual understanding,

Welcoming the fifth World Youth Congress, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, European Capital of Culture 2010, from 31 July to 13 August 2010, and the initiative of the Government of Mexico to host a World Youth Conference, in

¹ In paragraph 1 of its resolution 47/1, the Commission for Social Development reaffirmed the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto as a unified set of guiding principles, to be referred to henceforth as the World Programme of Action for Youth.



Mexico City from 24 to 27 August 2010, both of which will focus on the issue of youth and development in the context of the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the inaugural Youth Olympic Games, to be held in Singapore from 14 to 26 August 2010, the aim of which is to inspire young people around the world to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect,

1. *Decides* to proclaim the year commencing on 12 August 2010 the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding;

2. *Invites* all Member States, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and youth organizations to take advantage of the Year to build on the synergies among the activities to be carried out at the national, regional and international levels during the Year and to promote actions at all levels aimed at disseminating among young people the ideals of peace, freedom, progress, solidarity and dedication to the objectives and goals of progress and development, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Decides* to organize under the auspices of the United Nations a world youth conference as the highlight of the Year, and invites the President of the General Assembly to conduct open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of the conference, which is to be funded by voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* Member States, international and, where appropriate, regional organizations, and all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, to support all activities related to the Year, including by means of voluntary contributions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*65th plenary meeting
18 December 2009*